Coccidia infections in Danish farmed mink

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Coccidia infections in Danish farmed mink

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Coccidia in mink
What do we know

Danish farmed mink are frequently infected with Coccidia.

The proportion of positive mink varies significantly in relation to the seasons.

Most positive mink are seen in July and fewest in the winter months, according to a previous Danish study.

Only a few studies of coccidia in mink exist.

Knowledge of factors affecting the infection is scarce.

Purpose of the study
We studied

Age, geographical and season-related factors affecting coccidia prevalence.

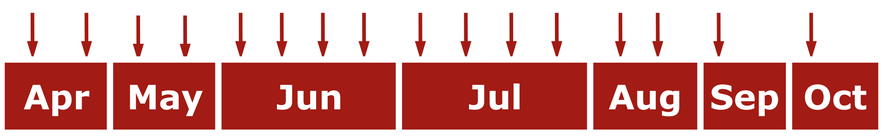
Material and method

30 farms included:

10 from Zealand
10 from North Jutland
10 from South Jutland

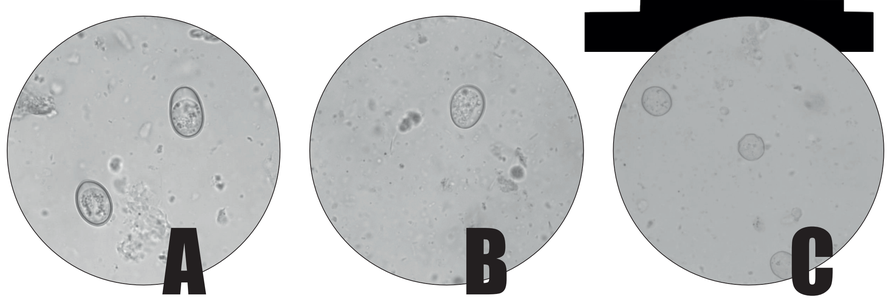
Fecal samples from 5 bitches and pool of feces from 2 of her cups.

16 sample days:



Oocyst were quantified microscopically by modified McMaster

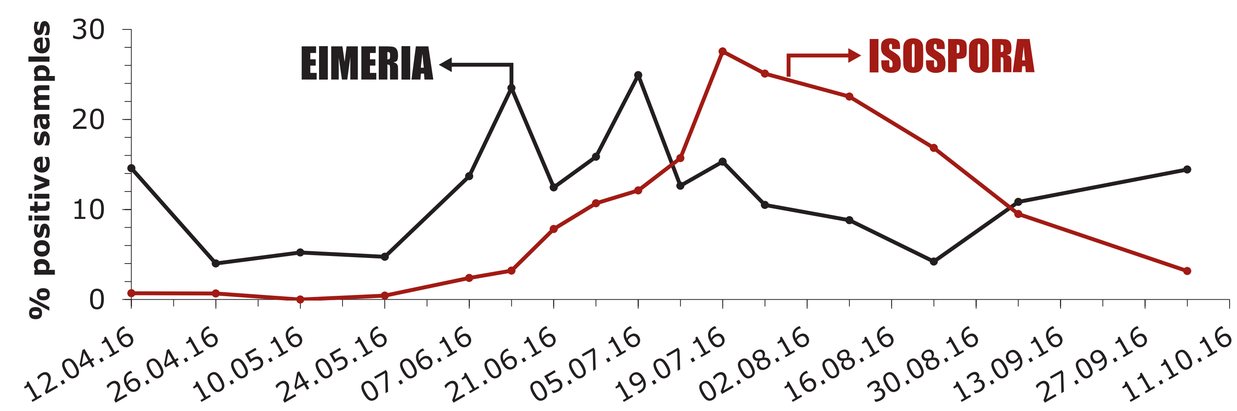
Oocyst were characterized by size and thickness of the wall as either type A, B or C.



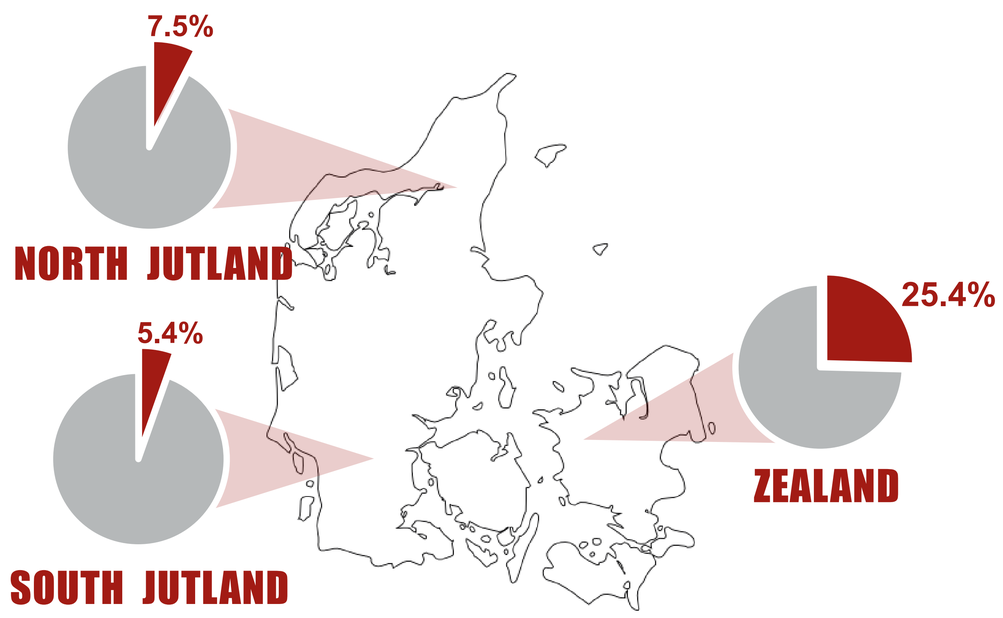
Results and conclusions

The **percentage of animals** positive for either *Eimeria* or *Isospora* at least once during the study was almost equal.

The *Eimeria* prevalence peaked in June – July, while most animals were *Isospora* positive in July – August.



The **percentage of *Eimeria* positive samples** was geographically related. For *Isospora*, the prevalence was unrelated to location of the farm.



The prevalence of ***Eimeria* oocyst type** were related to the location of the farms. Oocyst type B was the most prevalent type in mink from Zealand, while type C was most prevalent in mink from Jutland.